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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/614,107	07/08/2003	Dieter Dallmeier	A-8642.RNFMP/bh	7688
7590 12/22/2004				
HOFFMAN, WASSON & GITLER, PC Suite 522 2361 Jefferson Davis Highway Arlington, VA 22202			EXAMINER NGUYEN, TRUC T	
			ART UNIT 2833	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/614,107

Applicant(s)

DALLMEIER, DIETER

Examiner

Truc T. T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, it is unclear whether the "connection field" cited in line 3, "connection field" recited in lines 4-5, "multiple connection" cited in line 7, are refer to the same part of the device?

The applicant is requested to revise the claim language and reorganize the claimed limitations so as to present a better understandable claim.

Claims 1-12 will be examined as best understood by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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4. Claim 1-2, 4-5, 7-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Layton (US 6,483,709)

Regarding claims 1, 7-9 and 11, Layton discloses a device comprising:

a casing (150);

connection field (215) which includes a plurality of external individual connections (220, 225, 230, 245, 250, 255, 260, 265);

a removable segment (400) locate in the back of the casing and having connection field (450, 445, 430, 425, 420, 415, 410, 405) and multiple contacts (not shown, see Figure 4A-B);

locking/unlocking mechanism (465a-d) couple to the housing (see Figure 8);

a recess (un-numbered, holes on member 308) for the removable segment;

an air ventilation (460).

Regarding claim 2, Layton discloses the external individual connections of the connection field are electrically connected with the multiple contacts on the segment by means of strip conductors of the segment.

Regarding claim 4, Layton discloses the removable segment is a flat segment casing and that the external individual connections located on one surface of the casing and the at least one multiple connection of the segment of the casing.

Regarding claim 5, Layton discloses the at least one multiple connection of the segment and the at least one multiple connection of the casing comprises multiple plugs or multiple socket.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Layton (US 6,483,709).

Layton substantially disclosed the claimed invention except the inputs are for video monitoring elements.

It has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitation. *Ex Parte Masham, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987)*.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Layton (US 6,483,709) in view of Peller (US 5,452,951).

Layton substantially disclosed the claimed invention except for an additional casing wall.

Peller teaches an additional casing wall (13b).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide an additional casing wall into Layton's device, as taught by Peller for protecting the connector of the removable segment.

8. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Layton (US 6,483,709) in view of Hanas et al. (US 6,266,248).

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Layton substantially disclosed the claimed invention except for sensor or switch.

Hanas et al. teach a switch (38)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a switch into Layton's device, as taught by Hanas et al. for indicating connection status between the components.

9. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Layton (US 6,483,709) in view of Miller (US 6,208,612).

Layton substantially disclosed the claimed invention except for an air filter.

Miller teaches an air filter (88).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide an air filter into Layton's device, as taught by Miller for protecting the components from dust.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Truc T. T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2011.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800 extension 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Truc T. T. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2833

